



# McCain Strategic Defense Fellows Program

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

## Program Overview

The John S. McCain Strategic Defense Fellows Program is a one year paid civilian fellowship program designed to provide leadership development for the commencement of a career track toward senior leadership in the Department of Defense (DoD).

## Program Highlights

- Rotations in the Office of the Secretary of Defense or an Office of the Secretary of a Military Department
- Gain DoD experience and leadership capabilities through challenging opportunities to flourish into problem solvers, strategic thinkers and future leaders
- Mentorship by DoD senior leaders



## Program Requirements

### Application Requirements

Applicants are evaluated on their technical and professional excellence, character, commitment to public service and academic achievement.

- Advanced degree- Master's Degree and above
- Passing background and security investigations
- Completed application package
  - Resume
  - Official Transcripts
  - Endorsement from graduate institutions
  - Letters of recommendation
  - Proof of citizenship or lawful permanent residence
  - Academic writing sample
  - Personal statement to provide career areas of interest and motivations to serve in the DoD
- Must have graduate degree, or within 6 months of graduation upon application

### Career Fields

- Policy
- Financial Management
- Intel
- Contracting, Acquisition and Logistics
- Program Management
- Cyber
- STEM Fields: Science and Technology Management, Engineering, IT, Data Science, Data Analytics

**Application Period for Cohort 2 will open in January 2021:**

- **Open Application Period starts on January 4, 2021 and ends February 15, 2021**

**For more program information, go to:**

- <https://www.whs.mil/careers/>
- <https://www.whs.mil/McCain-Fellows-Program/>

**Program Management:**

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